Abstract

Africa’s poverty problems are often linked to its post independence poor leadership and corruption. In order to address and solve the problems of corruption in Africa it is important to understand their origins. This paper is an effort to look at the factors that form the roots of corruption in Africa today. I begin by discussing some of Africa’s unique environmental challenges in section one. I then look at what the legacies of slavery and colonialism left behind in section two. I go on to give an overview of current issues in section three, and an account of how these factors helped create corruption and poverty in Africa in section four. Finally, I offer suggestions that can contribute to reduce corruption in Africa in section five.